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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,900	06/25/2003	Mark W. Jennion	TN318	4889

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09/21/2005

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EXAMINER

TU, CHRISTINE TRINH LE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2133

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,900

Applicant(s)

JENNION ET AL.

Examiner

Christine T. Tu

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2133

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/25/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 2 and 24:

Applicant is requested to avoid using the word with “able” ending because it is not clear whether or not any actual performance is being recited. (i.e. “connectable” (at line 3 of claim 2): it is not clear whether or not the clock signals are actually connected through the mating connector).

Claim 1:

At line 2, the phrase “such as” should be avoided because such a phrase only provides exemplary language. In other words, it is not clear whether any actual limitation is being recited.

At line 13, it is not clear whether the term “maintenance-accessible circuitry” refers to the previously recited maintenance circuitry (as being recited at line 12). In other words, a consistent term should be used throughout the claims.

At lines 12-14, due to the use of too many “connecting” and “connected” words, the phrase “a logic card having maintenance circuitry needed by the circuit board connected to said apparatus for testing for connecting to maintenance accessible circuitry on said circuit board connected to said apparatus for testing” cannot be

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understood. It is not clear whether or not the phrase should be rephrased to “a logic card having maintenance circuitry for connecting to said circuit board.

At line 15, due to the use of a dash “-”, the term “or-static clock signal” cannot be understood.

At lines 17-18, the term “said logic card maintenance circuitry” lacks antecedent basis. It is not clear whether the term “said logic card maintenance circuitry” refers to the previously recited maintenance circuitry (as being recited at line 12). In other words, a consistent term should be used throughout the claims.

Claim 9:

At lines 1-2, the term “said light source” lacks antecedent basis. In other words, a consistent term should be used throughout the claims.

Claim 10:

At line 1, it is not clear whether the term “said board” refers to the circuit board.

Claim 11 (depends on claim 7):

At line 1, where is “said pneumatic cylinder” coming from?

Claim 12:

The term “said interfacing” lacks antecedent basis. What is the interfacing referring to?

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Claim 14:

At line 2, what is "it" referring to?

At line 5, the phrase "capable of" should be avoided because it is not clear whether or not the particular mode of the circuit board is actually being tested.

Claim 15 (depends on claim 1):

The term "said scanner" lacks antecedent basis. Where is the scanner coming from?

Claim 17:

The term "said two mating connectors" lacks antecedent basis. A consistent term should be used throughout the claims.

Claim 20 (depends on claim 17):

The term "said 64 bit wide and said 32 bit wide circuit boards" lacks antecedent basis. It is not clear where are the 64 bit wide circuit board and the 32 bit wide circuit board coming from?

Claim 22:

At line 3, the terms "said software data" and "said test vector data" lacks antecedent basis. Consistency of each term should be used throughout the claims.

Claim 27:

At line 3, the phrase “a same set of data files used to create test vectors” is confusing. It is not clear which set of data files the phrase refers to. Firstly, **no** data file is previously recited. Secondly, **no** test vector is previously recited. Only software and test vector files are being recited (at line 6 of claim 1). Again, consistency of each term should be used throughout the claims.

Claims 3-8, 13, 16, 18-19, 21, 23, 25-26:

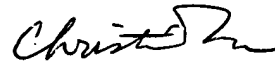
These claims are rejected because they depend on claims 1 and 17, and contain the same problems of indefiniteness.

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christine T. Tu whose telephone number is (571)272-3831. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur. 8:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady can be reached on (571)272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Christine T. Tu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2133

September 16, 2005